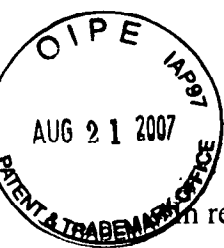


JPW



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040894-7453

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Takao HASEGAWA et al.

Application No.: 10/581,197

Filed: June 1, 2006

For: STAPLING APPARATUS

)  
)  
) Confirmation No.: Unassigned  
)  
) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
)  
) Examiner: Unassigned  
)  
) **Mail Stop Amendment**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application. Accordingly, Applicants do not believe that a fee is due for filing this paper.

The listed documents were cited in a Japanese Office Action in a counterpart Japanese patent application. Copies of the listed foreign documents are attached for the Examiner's consideration. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

**Except** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

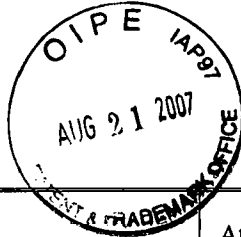
Dated: August 21, 2007

By:



Robert J. Goodell  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

**PTO Form 1449****PAGE 1 of 1**

Attorney Docket No. 040894-7453

Application No. : 10/581,197

Applicants: Takao HASEGAWA et al.

Filing Date: June 1, 2006

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	<u>Translation</u> YES NO	
/SS/	JP 2001-9755 A	Jan. 16, 2001	Japan (with English-language Abstract)	.....	.....		
/SS/	JP 2002-66952 A	Mar. 5, 2002	Japan (with English-language Abstract)	.....	.....		
/SS/	JP 3-75979 U	Jul. 30, 1991	Japan	.....	.....		X
/SS/	JP 9-193044 A	Jul. 29, 1997	Japan (with English-language Abstract)	.....	.....		

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

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Examiner

/Scott Smith/

Date Considered

04/12/2008

Examiner:

Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.